देश में उद्योग-रहित जिले

8231. श्री रामजी लाल : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) देश में इस समय कितने उद्योग रहित जिले हैं ;

(ख) क्या सरकार सम्पूर्ण देश में औद्योगिककरण लाने के लिये उद्योग-जिलों की संख्या में वृद्धि करने के लिए राज्य सरकारों को राजसहायता दे रही हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका राज्य वार और विशेषकर हरियाणा के संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती कृष्णा साही) : जिला उद्योग केन्द्र (डी.आई.सी.) कार्य योजना 1979-80 के आधार पर 93 "उद्योग रहित जिलों" का पता चला था।

(ख) जी, नहीं ।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Guidelines on investment of surplus funds to PSUs

8232. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued fresh guidelines on investment of surplus funds to PSUs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether PSUs are finding various difficulties to generate funds; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Govern-ment thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI); (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government have issued fresh guidelines on 14-12.1994 to PSUs on investment of surplus 'funds. The PSEs have been directed to- observe the following guidelines:—

(i) Investments should be made only in instruments with maximum safety.

(ii) There should be no element, of speculation on the yield obtaining from the investment.

(ifi) There should be a proper commercial appreciation before any investment decision of surplus fund is taken. The surplus availability may be worked out for period, of minimum one year at any point of time.

(iv) Funds should not be invested by the PS6 at a particular rate of Interest for a particular period of time while the PSE is resorting to borrowing at an equal or higher rate o'f interest for its requirements for the same period of time.

(v) Investment devision should be based on sound commercial judgment. The availability should be worked out based on cash flow estimates taking into account working" capital requirements, replacement of assets and other foreseaWe demands.

(vi) The remaining period of maturity of any instrument of investment shoujti not exceed one year from the date of investment where the investment is made in an instrument already issued. Where investment is made in an inatument-wly issued, the final maturity of the instrument should not exceed one year. However, only in the case of term deposits with banks, it can be upto three years.

Investments may be made in one or more of the following instruments, subject to principles outlin- -ed in the previous paragraph:

(i) Term deposits with any scheduled commercial bank (i.e. bank incorporated in India) and with a paid up capital of at least Rs, 100

crores, fulfilling the capital adequacy norms as prescribed by the RBI from time to time. These adequacy norms should be reflected in the last published balance sheet.

(ii) Instruments which have been rated by an established credit Rating Ageticy and have been accorded the laghejt credit rating signifying highest safety, e.g., Certificates of Deposits, deposits schemes or similar instruments issued by scheduled commercial banks/term lending institutions includinig their sub-sidiares as well as commercial paper of corporates.

(ii) Inter-corporate loans are permissible to be lent only to Central PSEs, which have obtained highest credit rating awarded by one of the established Credit Rating Agencies for borrowings for the correspend-ing period.

(iv) Any debt instrument which has obtained highest credit rating from an established credit rating agency.

Decisions on investment of sur-*plus* funds shall be taken by the PSU Board. However, decisions involving investing short-term surplus funds upto one year maturity may be delegated upto Prescribed unaits of investment, to a deaignated group of director (s), which should invariably include CMD and Director (Finance) Head of *f*inance internally. Where such delegation is made, ihe delegation order should, spell out the levels of approval and the powers of each official which should be strictly observed. Where such delegation is exercised, there should be a proper system of automatic internal reporting to the Board at its next meeting in all cases. PSEs should ensure that all investment decisions are in accordance with the regulations as per. the Company Law and Government of India instructions and any other relevant legislation and rules as applicable. Any investment already made which is not in conformity with the above guidelines should not be renewed after maturity.

Every PSE should arrange to place the above guidelines at its next Board meeting and evolve a suitable procedure ta cover investment of surplus funds to be followed by the company.

(c) and (d) Yes, sir- some of the PSUs are finding difficult to generate funds. As and when such require-ments are brought to the notice o'f the Government, remedial measures are suggested to such PSUs by ad-ministrative Ministries concerned. Budgetary support is given on selective basis depending upon the needs of the enterprises as well as availability of funds.

Cases of 'poisonous gas leakage

8233. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether a number of poisonous gas leakage cases have taken place. in different parts of the country during the past four months, especially in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what safety measures are taken to ensure leakage free operation and handling of poisonous gases and material; and

(d) what steps have been taken to ensurue eco-friendly teehnotogies-be ing adopted in chemicat and pharma ceutical industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMA. TI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d) the information is being, collected and wiU be laid on the Table of the House.